THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

1. A battery operated ionizer comprising

a) a battery connected to provide low voltage current to an electrical circuit;

b) an oscillator circuit within the electrical circuit powered by the battery for driving a voltage conversion circuit to provide an ionizing voltage to an output capacitor means;

c) an ion-emitter connected to receive charge from the voltage conversion circuit and output capacitor means; and

d) a counter-electrode connected to said electrical circuit,

wherein said oscillator produces intermittent oscillations such that the voltage established at the output capacitor means is an ionizing voltage and wherein, ion emission continues during the time the oscillator is not producing oscillations, supplied by charge from the output capacitor means.

2. An ionizer as in claim 1 wherein the voltage conversion circuit comprises a high voltage step-up transformer for producing said ionizing voltage.

3. An ionizer as in claim 2 wherein the voltage conversion circuit comprises a diode-capacitor multiplier network driven by the transformer for producing said ionizing voltage.

4. An ionizer as described in claim 1 in which the voltage conversion circuit is a first high voltage producing network for providing a positive or negative polarity DC output, and wherein said ionizer further comprises a second high voltage producing network for producing an opposite polarity DC high voltage to that of said first network, said second network being connected to said counter-electrode.

5. An ionizer as described in claim 1 wherein said ion-emitter is provided with a negative voltage to produce negative ions.

6. An ionizer as in claim 1 comprising a conductive connection means whereby a human body may become electrically connected to said electrical circuit to serve as the counter electrode.

7. An ionizer as in claim 7 wherein said conductive connection means is a conductive strap that supports the ionizer as a pendant.

8. An ionizer as in claim 1 wherein said counter-electrode has a cleanable dust collecting surface.

9. An ionizer as in claim 8 wherein said ion emitter is carried by a base and said dust collecting surface is mounted from said base to permit air to flow to pass by the ion-emitter and then to the cleanable dust collecting surface for the deposit of dust thereon.

10. An ionizer as in claim 9 wherein said dust collecting surface is mounted in a spaced relationship to said ion-emitter, carried by support means extending from said base, said counter-electrode being detachable from said base and support means to permit separate cleaning of the dust collecting surface.

11. An ionizer as in claim 10 wherein the dust collecting surface is mounted above said ion emitter.

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